

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Teiji EKIDA et al

Conf. No.: **Unassigned**

Continuation
Appln. No.: **of 09/743,239**

Group Art Unit: **1646**

Filed: **March 23, 2004**

Examiner: **Mertz, P.**

For: **IL-6 RECEPTOR • IL-6 DIRECT FUSION PROTEIN**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION.....	2
REMARKS	3